high level committee to study the problems of flood prone areas and to suggest measures for affording a reasonable degree of protection on long-term basis in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof and by when the committee is likely to submit its report, and

(c) if not, whether the Government propose to constitute a committee now?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI). (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

Allocation of Amount for Flood Control in Andhra Pradesh

4384. SHRI TALARI MANOHAR : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) what are the short and long term measures taken by Government for flood control in Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) the amount released by the Central Government for the purpose during the last five years year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI) : (a) and (b) Government of Andhra Pradesh have been constructing embankments, drainage channel, detention reservoirs, town protection works and raising of villages under the State Plan provisions.

Fixation of Pay of Officers in Defence Services

4385. SHRI JERLI E. TARIANG: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the pay of some of the re-employed officers in the defence services in the rank of Major and equivalents are still fixed at total monthly salary of Rs. 1450/- per month with an increment of Rs. 50/- per year which is at present on par with JCO's salary;

(b) whether any action is being initiated to implement recommendations of the Fourth Pay Commission for the fixation of pay for re-employed officers ; and

(c) if so, when it is likely to be implemented ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI) : (a) As per extant orders, the pay of a retired Defence Service Officer who is re-employed in the Defence Services in the rank of Major or equivalent, when fixed in the prerevised scale of pay of the rank of Major, will be in the pay scale of Rs. 1450-50-1800. He is also allowed to draw normal increments in this scale, provided that the pay, the gross pension exlcuding the ignorable part and the pension equivalent of gratuity taken together do not exceed the last pay drawn before retirement or Rs. 3500/- whichever is less. The prerevised scale of pay of a Major cannot be compared to the revised pay scale of a JCO.

(b) and (c) No specific recommendations have been made by the Fourth Central Pay Commission for fixation of pay of re-employed Defence Officers. However, taking into account the recommendation that Government may review the entire question of fixation of pay on re-employment, the Department of Personnel and Training have issued certain orders in regard to fixation of pay of pensioners re-

employed in civil posts. These provide for :—

(i) revision of pay of re-employed persons from old scales to new scales with effect from 1-1-1986;

(ii) deduction of non-ignorable part of revised pension from the part of revised scales with effect from 1-1-1986;

(iii) enhancing the limit for pay on re-employment plus pensionary benefits from Rs. 3500 to Rs. 8000; and

(iv) not deducting the pension equivalent of gratuity from the pay fixed on re-employment.

4386. [*Transfered to the 30th August*, 1988]

Deletion of 'Epilepsy' from Divorce Law

4387. SHRI ALADI ARUNA *alias* V. ARUNACHALAM : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received any memorandum regarding deletion of "epilepsy" as one of the grounds for divorce ; and

(b) if so, what is the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI HANS RAJ BHARDWAJ):(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The proposal is under consideration inconsultation with the State Governments.

Escalation in the Cost of Mega Project

4388. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) what are the major reasons for the cost over runs of Rs. 15,555 crores in the implementation of Mega Projects ; and

(b) what emergent measures are being taken to complete tlese projects on time ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) The reasons for cost escalation of large projects include resource constraints, price escalation, inadequate investigation at the project formulation stage, difficulties in land acquisition and building materials at times.

(b) The State Governments have been advised to priorities the projects for optimal allocation of available resources and lay stress on completion of ongoing projects which are in an advanced stage of completion. Steps taken by the Centre include earmarking of funds to select projects, provision of scarce construction material and arranging external assistance wherever possible for augmenting the financial resources of the State.

Increase in the Imports of ET&T

4389. SHRI SUKOMAL SEN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that on assumption of offic e as Chairman of ET&T by a private sector industrialist the imports of ET&T jumped from Rs. 15.25 crores in 1982 to Rs. 55.59 crores in 1984-85 and Rs. 54.59 crores in 1985-86; and

(b) if so, how much commission was paid to private companies in India for these imports and whether any of these private companies belong directly or indirectly to the Chairman of ET&T who is known to be the a major or substantial shareholder of the APLOT group of companies ?